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EIS000665

22 DR. KLOMP: I'm Dr. Klomp. I live in Panaca. I
23 picked this place twenty-five years ago because it was about
24 the happiest place I ever found, and the safest, and I don't
25 think -- I don't think I differ from anybody in the room who

1 says that they don't particularly want this stuff coming here,
2 and I certainly don't.

3 However, I'm a realist. They're only considering
4 one site here, boys and girls. It's going to come here, and I
5 personally want guys like Louis Benezette and Larry, I want you
6 guys on the committee that helps oversee it because it's going
7 to come here. I'll vote for you to be there because you'd do a
8 better job than I would.

9 On the information they gave us as we came in,
10 this little map shows you all the places where nuclear waste is
11 currently being stored, mostly in swimming pools and stuff like
12 that, and in case you need a geography lesson, about eighty
13 percent of the population in the United States lives right here
14 and about twenty percent lives over here and you know how much
15 lives here? One percent.

16 Our representation in Congress shows that, too,
17 and so, you know, the possibility of us stopping it from coming
18 here from absolutely two chances: Slim and not any at all, and
19 so it's probably going to come here.

20 And the fact that we're doing these hearings,
21 it's becoming into its final stages where the decisions will be
22 made and I really think it's probably going to come here and it
23 will probably come not quite over our dead bodies, but close.

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24 So the people who are concerned, I appreciate the
25 fact that you're probably more concerned than I am. I'm kind

1 of a science guy and I trust some of the scientists to be able
2 to build a cask that won't crack open.

3 I also realize that out at the test site, there
4 are hundreds of millions of tons of radioactive debris already
5 down there thousands of feet leaking, leaching into your water
6 supply and they haven't found any coming out of Amargosa Valley
7 yet.

8 The stuff they're sending out there is very
9 high-level stuff. It's in a cylinder about eight inches in
10 diameter and twelve to ten feet long, and it stays at 800
11 degrees for the next 1,300 years.

12 If you've ever seen one, if you've been close
13 enough to see one, you know what your radiation sickness. Your
14 hair doesn't fall out. You drop dead. It kills you. If
15 you're within twenty feet of one, you're already dead. You
16 don't get radiation sickness and die slowly; you are dead.

17 Okay. It's in metallic cylinders. Now, that's
18 not radiation floating around. It's not fallout from a nuclear
19 explosion. It's actually metallic.

20 The chance of that slipping into the water supply
21 are probably less than what's already out there, and we're
22 probably not going to set up dairy farms and stuff out at the
23 test site and because it's polluted and it will be as long as
24 this program keeps running, as long as the United States has
25 any chance of being alive.

1 And so the DEIS is probably somebody's best guess
2 as to how it's going to happen, and it will be changed as it
3 goes along so we can all say "ah, we think this is bad, and
4 that's stupid" and it's probably all correct. I'll be out,
5 too, and I'll probably agree with you.

6 However, I think it's going to be rammed down
7 your throats, and so our -- I feel like our responsibility does
8 not end with lying in the roadway because after a while, we're
9 going to have to get up or else we'll be run over so we won't
10 have to worry otherwise because we'll be dead.

11 Then we need to be on the committees that say,
12 "Don't do it this way, do it this way. It will impact fewer
13 people," because out here in Lincoln County, we all like each
14 other and I recognize a lot of people here. Of course I don't
15 recognize a lot of people, too.

16 There are only a few of us. You know, Lincoln
17 and Clark County, have you ever -- we're not even one percent.
18 We're not a tenth of a percent. Our voting, our electorate --
19 I mean, I'm surprised politicians even come here because we are
20 nothing. This is the -- this is the end of the earth.

21 This is the place where put something where no
22 one cares because we are no one. We are -- there's not enough
23 of us to make any difference.

24 We can scream and yell and they'll drag us
25 carefully off to the dung heap. It's going down, boys and
1 girls.

2 Anyway, so, you know, I know that many of you
3 don't support Kevin Phillips and some of those guys because

4 they don't agree with you, but the reality is that you need to
5 be working with Kevin Phillips and those guys or you become
6 those guys because they're the ones who are going to make the
7 rules, and I want you guys on that committee because you'd be
8 more diligent than I am.

9 I -- I trust scientists more than you do,
10 although I realize it's horse pucky and I don't trust them,
11 either. If I trusted them, I'd let them do my taxes instead of
12 my attorney.

1 13 I guess that's about all I have to say. I'm not
14 in favor of it coming here, but I think it is going to and we
15 need to do all we can to get -- clean up things, and if it
16 impacts our schools, our children have to be as happy as
17 possible.

18 It isn't -- isn't safety or money. It's money to
19 become safe. It's being in the position to make the rules so
20 that they will hurt us the least, because I think it's coming,
21 and frankly having to be spread out over the whole United
22 States or being out there, I'd rather have it out there.

23 Thank you.